

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 02603 151936Z

70

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SCI-06 AEC-11 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01

/167 W

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R 151724Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0481

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02603

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, GW

SUBJECT: NPT RATIFICATION

REF: (A) BONN 2439; (B) BONN 2445

SUMMARY: AS FORESEEN IN REFTEL (A), AMBASSADOR ROTH
BRIEFED US MINISTER FEBRUARY 15, CONFIRMING GOVERNMENT'S
CONVICTION THAT RATIFICATION LAWS WILL PASS BUNDESTAG
WITH SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITIES AND EXPRESSING VIEW THAT
BUNDESRAT UNLIKELY TO REJECT. HE SAID TEXT OF
DECLARATION FRG PLANS MAKE WHEN DEPOSITING RATIFICATION
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PAGE 02 BONN 02603 151936Z

INSTRUMENT NOT YET FULLY CLEARED BUT PROMISED FULL
CONSULTATION WITH US AND UK ASAP, PERHAPS EARLY

MARCH. END SUMMARY

1. ROTH SAID COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION NOW COMPLETED. FOUR COMMITTEES INVOLVED: FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH HAD PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY; DEFENSE; ECONOMIC AFFAIRS; AND RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY. FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROVED LAW FOR RATIFICATION OF NPT BY 25-8 VOTE, AS INDICATED IN REFTELS. IT APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY THE LAW FOR RATIFICATION OF VERIFICATION AGREEMENT.

2. BASED INTER ALIA ON COMMITTEE RESULTS, ROTH SAID GOVERNMENT EXPECTS SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OPPOSITION MEMBERS WILL VOTE FOR NPT RATIFICATION AT SIMULANEOUS SECOND AND THIRD READINGS IN BUNDESTAG FEBRUARY 20, ENSURING EASY PASSAGE. VERIFICATION AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO PASS SAME DAY WITH "VERY LARGE MAJORITY".

3. LAWS THEN GO TO BUNDESRAT FOR SECOND READING, WHICH WILL TAKE ABOUT THREE WEEKS AND SHOULD BE FINISHED BY MID-MARCH. ROTH SAID GOVERNMENT EXPECTS NO COMPLICATIONS THERE DESPITE CDU/CSU MAJORITY. LAWS REQUIRE BUNDESRAT APPROVAL BECAUSE OF PROVISIONS IN VERIFICATION AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN RIGHTS AND IMMUNITIES GRANTED IAEA INSPECTORS.

4. ROTH SAID FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL HAD TOLD FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE THAT GOVERNMENT INTENDED, WHEN DEPOSITING INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, TO MAKE FURTHER DECLARATION ALONG LINES ITS DECLARATION OF 1969, BUT ELABORATING THAT PORTION STATING ITS VIEW THAT NPT DOES NOT IMPOSE OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS TOWARD EUROPEAN UNION. TEXT OF DECLARATION STILL UNDER REVIEW WITHIN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. ROTH ASSURED MINISTER THAT FRG WOULD CONSULT US AND UK OFFICIALLY ON TEXT AT APPROPRIATE TIME, PERHAPS DURING FIRST HALF OF MARCH.

5. TIMING OF FRG'S DEPOSIT OF RATIFICATION INSTRUMENT, ROTH NOTED, WOULD DEPEND TO SOME EXTENT ON RATIFICATION ACTIONS BY OTHER EC PARTNERS, NOTABLY ITALY. FRG DID
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PAGE 03 BONN 02603 151936Z

NOT WANT TO RISK SITUATION IN WHICH, EIGHTEEN MONTHS AFTER ITS DEPOSIT, SOME OTHERS HAD NOT YET RATIFIED. IN REPLY TO QUESTION FROM MINISTER, ROTH SAID FRG HAD COORDINATED INFORMALLY WITH ITALIANS AND OTHERS ON THIS QUESTION, BUT WOULD WAIT UNTIL PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES IN FRG COMPLETED BEFORE PURSUING IT MORE INTENSIVELY AND FORMALLY WITH THEM.
HILLENBRAND

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